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house or the committees thereof unless such association or persons first appoint a treasurer whose appointment shall be subscribed to in writing by at least two persons responsible for appointing such treasurer, which written appointment shall be filed in the secretary of state's office. No person shall be appointed or act as treasurer for any unincorporated association, or combination of two or more persons, who is not a citizen and resident of the State of Indiana. It shall be unlawful for any person to contribute to any fund of any unincorporated association, or combination of two or more persons until a treasurer has been appointed, as heretofore prescribed. No money shall be collected, received or expended by such unincorporated association, or combination of two or more persons except as it shall be paid over to and made to pass through the hands of the treasurer. The treasurer of such unincorporated association, or combination of two or more persons shall keep a faithful record of all money received, collected and disbursed for the purpose of aiding or promoting the success, amendment or defeat of any legislation in the general assembly or either house thereof, showing from whom received, the amount received in each case, to whom paid, for what the payments were made, and the amount in each case. The treasurer shall within thirty (30) days after the adjournment of the general assembly make a complete and detailed report to the secretary of state showing the itemized list of all money received, from whom received, all money disbursed, to whom paid and for what purpose. Such treasurer, upon a resolution of either house of the general assembly of this State, may be required to make such complete and detailed report to the secretary of state within such time as may be prescribed in such resolution therefor."

The law prohibits members of party committees and all public officials from receiving money for promoting or opposing legislation. It also prohibits employees of the legislature, newspapermen and others having the privilege of the floor of the house to act as paid lobbyists or to urge the passage or defeat of legislation in any way.

Non-Partisan Government. The movement for non-partisan government has been elevated into the realm of state affairs this year. The movement is widespread as applied to city offices and judicial positions and has been extended in some States to counties and in two States, Washington and Minnesota, to legislative officials.

This year the extension of the plan to state affairs is strongly recommended by Governor Johnson of California backed by the party platform declarations of the leading parties of that State. The plan is, therefore, likely to be adopted.

Governor Johnson said to the legislature in advocacy of the proposal: "Most earnestly do I suggest to you that our state officials be elected without party designation of any sort. The advance to non-partisanship in our State will be neither an extended nor a difficult step. The political units that compose the State have all adopted non-partisanship in the selection of their officials. The desideratum of all government is efficiency—to obtain honest and able officials devoted exclusively to the government. To govern well is to govern for all, not for a part or a class. To act in official capacity should be to act solely for the benefit of the State, and that official acts best who forgets every other consideration, but the interest of the State. Long ago this lesson was learned by cities. In California, as in many States, all of our cities elect their officials without regard to party affiliations at all, and without party designation. Why? Because experience taught these cities that thus they obtained better officials and greater efficiency. It is within the memory of all of us that these cities formerly elected their officials—city clerks, and the like—because of their partisan affiliations. Progress in city government swept from existence this old system, that had obtained so long, and its destruction was necessary in order that the best government be obtained. Recently the counties of the State adopted the plan that has been in vogue in cities, and elected all of the county officials without party designation. Inquiry among the counties has demonstrated that this method has met with almost universal approval, and it is hoped that the counties, in service, will be benefited just as the cities, in service, have been benefited. We now suggest applying the principle to the State as well, so that candidates for state positions will come before the people upon what they themselves are, not upon what their ancestors were; that they will ask the suffrages of the electorate upon their record or lack of record; their merits or their demerits, rather than upon the blind partisanship of themselves or their forefathers. There is nothing thus presented to you that seeks to destroy or even to affect political parties nationally. The government of the State has become now a matter of efficient business management, and efficient business management

may be best obtained without politics. The one argument most frequently heard against the course we suggest, is that parties stand for definite policies, and that they are necessary therefore, to preserve or to adopt some definite governmental tenets, and that for the adoption or failure to adopt these tenets, responsibility is fixed upon the *party* in power. The fallacy of this argument is found within the memories of all of us. In the state government today, none holds a particular party responsible for any specified act. All hold responsible the individual who is supposed to have caused the act. In the government of municipalities no party ever was held responsible for the acts of its agents who were officials, but the individuals were held responsible. In the government of the county today, for the specific act of an official, no party is held responsible, but the individual himself must answer to the people. Were the subject one of national import, which it is not, events of recent occurrence could readily be cited to show that the theory of party responsibility is now a mere political fiction. If a party be in charge of a corrupt boss or a number of corrupt bosses, to speak of party responsibility is absurd. If a party solemnly presents to the people a platform with well understood and thoroughly interpreted tenets, and the individual in power deliberately ignores the party's pledges, the responsibility rests with the individual. But in a political subdivision like the county, or the State, experience, the greatest teacher of all, has given us the absolute knowledge that there is, in reality, no party responsibility for the acts of individual officials. The people of the State of California at the recent election, themselves destroyed partisanship in California, and they said just as plainly as it was possible for them to say, that in the selection of their officials blind partisanship should play no part. If the voice of the people so recently heard shall carry with it the mandate of the people, non-partisanship in our state elections will be assured.

"While political economists may often speak of the necessity of parties, there is none but decries blind party worship. Blind partisanship is ever the refuge of the unworthy politically, and it is he who dares not to exploit himself or his record that insists upon ignorant, unyielding and unswerving party fealty. Of late years we have emerged from the darkness, and we have emancipated our cities and our counties. It is our fond hope that in this, as in other steps of progress, we may point the way for our sister States."